

**FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS  
FOR  
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS  
OF THE  
OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
  
REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 3**

The Administrative Procedure Act requires that every agency shall maintain a file of each rulemaking that shall be deemed to be the record for that rulemaking proceeding. The rulemaking file shall include a final statement of reasons. The Final Statement of Reasons shall be available to the public upon request when rulemaking action is being undertaken. The following are the reasons for proposing this particular rulemaking action:

**UPDATES TO THE INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS:**

The Initial Statement of Reasons has been updated, as follows:

**STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONALE:**

**ARTICLE 089-7**

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development promulgates and enforces regulations for hospitals and skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) in California. Historically, the California Building Code has included different requirements for hospital-based skilled nursing units than it has for freestanding SNFs on a hospital license and for separately licensed SNFs.

Section 72103 of Title 22, CCR, defines "skilled nursing facility" as "a health facility or a distinct part of a hospital which provides continuous skilled nursing care and supportive care to patients whose primary need is for availability of skilled nursing care on an extended basis." This definition makes no distinction between skilled nursing services that are provided as a distinct part unit in an acute care hospital, as a distinct part in a freestanding building on the hospital license, or a freestanding separately licensed SNF. Therefore, the regulations that apply to skilled nursing services should be the same, regardless of the type of facility in which the services are provided.

The purpose for this change is to make the regulations for skilled nursing facilities the same, whether the facility is a freestanding separately licensed SNF, a freestanding SNF building on a hospital license, or a distinct part SNF unit in a hospital building.

**ARTICLE 517-33 (a)**

The California Electrical Code (CEC) does not specifically require the pressure monitoring alarm systems for negative pressure isolation rooms and positive pressure isolation rooms to be on the essential electrical system. Many facilities and engineers recognized the importance of these pressure monitoring systems and the need for them to continue to function during a normal power outage. CEC, Articles 517-32, 517-33 and 517-34 specifically list what loads can be placed on the Life Safety, Critical, and Equipment Branches of the essential electrical system, respectively. However, since the CEC does not specifically list these alarm systems in any of the three branches of the essential electrical system, confusion exists as to which branch they can be placed on and different interpretations exist.

This proposal would require this important alarm system for monitoring the pressure of negative pressure isolation rooms and positive pressure isolation rooms to be on the Critical Branch of the essential electrical system. This proposed change will eliminate confusion and uncertainty over which branch of the essential electrical system these alarm may be located and enhance uniform application of the code. This change would apply only to acute care hospitals and correctional treatment centers.

**MANDATE ON LOCAL AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS** (Pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.9(a)(2), if the determination as to whether the proposed action would impose a mandate, the agency shall state whether the mandate is reimbursable pursuant to Part 7 of Division 4. If the agency finds that the mandate is not reimbursable, it shall state the reasons for the finding(s))

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts.

**OBJECTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS MADE REGARDING THE PROPOSED REGULATION(S)**. (Government Code Section 11346.9(a)(3))

The Office did not receive any objections or recommendations regarding the proposed regulations.

**DETERMINATION OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND EFFECT ON PRIVATE PERSONS**  
(Government Code Section 11346.9(a)(4))

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development has determined that no alternative considered would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the regulation is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the adopted regulation.

**REJECTED PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE THAT WOULD LESSEN THE ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES:** (Government Code Section 11346.9(a)(5))

There were no proposed alternatives. Additionally, the proposed regulations will not have an adverse economic impact on small businesses.

**COMMENTS MADE BY THE OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE**  
(Government Code Section 11347.6)

The Office did not receive any comments from the Small Business Advocate.

**COMMENTS MADE BY THE TRADE AND COMMERCE AGENCY**  
(Government Code Section 11347.6)

The Office did not receive any comments from the Trade and Commerce Agency.